Bangladesh who have come to Tripura;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Amnesty International has urged the Government of India to refrain from repatriating these tribal refugees against their will; and

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) There were 47,003 refugees from the Chittagong Hill Tracts of Bangladesh in camps in Tripura on 8-3-1987.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Government of Bangladesh had agreed that repatriation of the refugees from Tripura to the Chittagong Hills Tracts would start from the 15th January, 1987. On that date, however, the refugees refused to return to Bangladesh, saying that they were not convinced that they would be safe on return to their homes. As a result, repatriation could not begin.

Government has requested the Government of Bangladesh to take necessary measures to restore conditions of safety and normalcy in the Chittagong Hill Tracts so that the refugees gain the confidence to return to their homes voluntarily.

Sri Lankan President's Statement on Tamil Terrorists

2199. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reported statement of the Sri Lankan President accusing India of not assisting in preventing Tamil terrorists coming to Sri Lanka secretly in boats after receiving military training in Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government categorically denies the accusation.

Indian Medical Graduates in Canada

2200. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than a hundred medical graduates from India who have successfully passed the Canadian evaluation tests cannot practice in Canada;

(b) whether it is also a fact that some of these medical graduates have been doing odd jobs as delivery boys, security guards an attendants at guest houses;

(c) if so, what measures are being taken by the Central Government to help these madical graduates and encourage them to return to India and provide them jobs; and

(d) whether Government have prepared any scheme to discharge Indian medical graduates and engineers from migrating to foreign countries and if so what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Government are aware that some medical graduates from India and other countries who have successfully passed the Canadian evaluation test find it difficult to get internship posts, which is one of the pre-requisites for practising in Canada.

(b) According to available information, some of these medical graduates are doing jobs unrelated to their qualifications.